Shramay Palta

✉ spalta@umd.edu
🌐 shramay-palta.github.io

Education

2021–present   **University of Maryland, College Park**, *Ph.D. in Computer Science*
Advisor: Professor Rachel Rudinger

2021–2023   **University of Maryland, College Park**, *M.S. in Computer Science*
Advisor: Professor Rachel Rudinger

2017–2021   **Birla Institute of Technology and Science (BITS) Pilani**, *B.E. in Electrical and Electronics Engineering*
Advisors: Professor Ashok Agrawala (UMD) and Professor Navneet Goyal (BITS)

Publications

Preprints, Under Review and Works in progress.

Work in progress   **Shramay Palta**, Peter Rankel, Sarah Wiegreffe, Rachel Rudinger. *Can LLMs make the Implausible Plausible? Understanding the Impact of LLM Rationales on Human Notions of Plausibility.*

Under Review   **Shramay Palta**, Nirupama Chandrasekaran, Rachel Rudinger, Scott Counts. *A Facepalm or a High-Five: Impact on User Experience When an Agent (Mis)aligns with User Expertise.* 2024.

Conference Papers

EMNLP 2024 Findings   **Shramay Palta**, Nishant Balepur, Peter Rankel, Sarah Wiegreffe, Marine Carpuat, Rachel Rudinger. *Plausibly Problematic Questions in Multiple-Choice Benchmarks for Commonsense Reasoning.* Conference on Empirical Methods in Natural Language Processing.

ECCV 2024   Gowthami Somepalli, Anubhav Gupta, Kamal Gupta, **Shramay Palta**, Micah Goldblum, Jonas Geiping, Abhinav Shrivastava, Tom Goldstein. *Investigating Style Similarity in Diffusion Models.* European Conference on Computer Vision (ECCV).

ACL 2024 Findings   Nishant Balepur, **Shramay Palta**, Rachel Rudinger. *It's Not Easy Being Wrong: Large Language Models Struggle with Process of Elimination Reasoning.* Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

ACL 2023 Findings   **Shramay Palta**, Rachel Rudinger. *FORK: A Bite-Sized Test Set for Probing Culinary Cultural Biases in Commonsense Reasoning Models.* Findings of the Association for Computational Linguistics.

Professional Experience

Industry

2024   **Research Intern**, *Microsoft Research*
Hosted by Dr. Scott Counts. Worked on analyzing how user experience with LLMs is impacted in cases of model mis-alignment with human values.

2019 **Data Science Intern**, *TurnoutNow*
Using real-time location data from IoT BLE Beacons and natural language generation tools with live data connections to generate narratives for end users.

Academia

2021–present **Research Assistant**, *CLIP Lab*, UMD
Advised by Professor Rachel Rudinger on evaluating Large Language Models in cases of uncertainty in commonsense reasoning and how they deviate from human values.

2021 **Research Assistant**, *HDI Lab*, UMD
Advised by Professor Leo Zhicheng Liu on using Natural Language Processing Techniques to harvest design feedback from visualization comments on social media platforms like Reddit.

2020 **Research Intern**, *Global Health Center*
Hosted by Dr. Amandeep Gill. Researched the role of micro-narratives as proxy variables to fill in missing data and developing human-centered benchmarks for digital health.

Selected Invited Talks

2023 **Prompting, In-context Learning, and Instruct Tuning**, *Guest Lecture*
Undergraduate Natural Language Processing course at UMD.

Academic Service

Reviewing

- ACL: 2023
- NAACL: 2024
- EMNLP: 2023
- EACL: 2023

Other

- Reviewer: UMD CS Graduate Admissions Committee
- Member: Computer Science Department Council, Computer Science MS Strategic Growth Committee
- President: CS GradCo: an organization aimed to improve the experiences of all CS graduate students as they progress through their program.

Selected Honor and Awards

2021–2023 **Dean's Fellowship and Chair's Fellowship**, *UMD*
Awarded the Graduate School Dean's Fellowship and the Chair's Fellowship Award for outstanding academic achievement.

2010 **World Robot Olympiad Rank 31**
Represented India at the World Robot Olympiad held in Manila, Philippines, and secured a world rank of 31 in my category.

2010 **Indian Robot Olympiad Rank 2**
Awarded the runner's up award in my category.